

General Meeting, 1853 February 11. He did not contribute any papers to the Society, but on 1873 June 13, the "Rev. J. V. Mummery presented to the Society a fine photograph from a painting of the late Mrs. Somerville" (*Monthly Notices*, xxxiii. p. 461). The printer's error, "J. V." for "I. V." in the initials, also occurs in the note of his election.

ANKITAM VENKATA NURSING ROW was born in the year 1827. He comes of an ancient stock settled on the banks of the Krishna. Mr. Nursing Row's father was Diwan to the Nawab of Masulipatam, and his uncle a Dubash of the East India Company at Ganjam. Mr. Nursing Row lost his father when an infant; so he was brought to Vizagapatam, and brought up under the care of his maternal grandfather. His education was entrusted at first to Mr. Porter, and then to the Rev. J. Hay, M.A., D.D., the father of modern education in the Northern Circars. Mr. Nursing Row entered the service of the East India Company when he was young, and early rose to the position of a deputy collector; but his wife inherited a large estate from her mother, and he resigned his connection with the public service for the purpose of managing the estate. He found connected with it a small observatory, provided with a transit instrument, erected by his father-in-law, Mr. G. V. Jugga Row, an ingenious and wealthy Zemindar, who invented a pluviometer. Finding the management of the estate afforded him plenty of leisure, Mr. Nursing Row devoted himself to the study of astronomy. He learnt the rudiments of the science from Dr. Hay, and, in correspondence with eminent English astronomers, who kindly gave him a good deal of help, began to develop the institution left by his father-in-law. He had a new observatory built in 1874, and provided it with a 6-inch equatoreal instrument, a transit circle, and a sidereal clock. He was appointed Honorary Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India for Vizagapatam. The Government evening time-gun at this station having been discontinued on 1871 September 20, Mr. Nursing Row offered to bear the expenses of the firing, which the Government of Madras allowed as a special case, and this useful institution has been maintained ever since. He founded a photographic studio in this town. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1871, and of the Royal Geographical Society in 1872. The dearest wish of his heart was to provide the Observatory with the means for photographing the sky. For this purpose he obtained celestial photographic instruments, but died on 1892 June 18, before he could complete the arrangements.

BENJAMIN SCOTT was born in 1814, and was the son of Mr. Benjamin Scott, who at that time was a junior officer of the Corporation of the City of London. Mr. Scott was educated at Totteridge, and, on leaving school, entered the service of the

Corporation at once, becoming nominated for a junior clerkship before his age rendered him eligible for such a post. His steady perseverance and strict attention to the minutiae of the duties devolving upon him won him the favour of his superiors, and he rose steadily in his position until, on his father's death, he was appointed Chief Clerk to the Chamberlain of the City. On the death of his chief, Mr. Anthony Brown, he came forward as a candidate for the vacant office, but was not successful on that occasion. Later, however, on the death of Sir John Key in 1858, he was elected to the post with absolute unanimity, and he remained Chamberlain to the day of his death; his connection with the Corporation thus extending over a period of sixty-five years, and only being interrupted for a short time during Sir John Key's term of office, when for a while he laid aside all City work to devote himself to benevolent and philanthropic work.

His services to the City as Chamberlain during the long period of more than one-third of a century were of the highest order. His management of the finances of the Corporation was most wise and able, and by a judicious rearrangement of the bonds and loans he saved the Corporation large sums annually, thus enabling many well-considered schemes which must otherwise have been dropped for lack of funds to be carried through. Of these schemes, one of the most important, in which he took the most lively interest, was the acquisition of Epping Forest as an open space for the people of London.

He was a most earnest and skilful defender of the Corporation against the numerous attacks which have been made upon it; and his "Statistical Vindication of the City of London," a work upon which he devoted immense care and pains, remains as a monument of his efforts.

Conscientiousness and thoroughness were amongst his chief characteristics, and however small a matter might be he bestowed upon it the same care and accuracy "as if he were drawing a will or framing an indictment." He literally died in harness, for although he was not seen at the Guildhall again after Christmas, 1891, he was engaged upon his official work almost to the last day of his life. He died in 1892 January 17, only three days after the death of the beloved wife, to whom he had been married for nearly fifty years, and who was buried with him at Weybridge Cemetery, 1892 January 19. He was elected a Fellow of this Society 1860 April 13.

THOMAS TAYLOR was born in London on 1814 January 1, and died from chronic bronchitis at Montreux on 1892 March 6. After education by a private tutor, he entered St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he took the prize for botany. He was in general practice for some years, and also lectured on Chemistry both at St. Thomas's Hospital and at the Middlesex Hospital. Long and serious illness compelled him to abandon his connexion with the latter institution twenty-five years ago, and from that time he